

*Note on the Otothrix Hodgsoni.*

By G. R. GRAY.

In a late Number of 'The Ibis,' Mr. Blyth refers to my *Otothrix Hodgsoni* (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1859, p. 101. pl. 152), and makes it absolutely identical with *Podargus cornutus*. He goes so far as to say that the former is the young of the latter species. If he had, however, actually compared them together, he could never have made such an erroneous identification. In his Catalogue of Birds, Mr. Blyth doubtfully considers the *Podargus cornutus* as the adult of *P. javanensis*, while in another work (Journ. A. S. B. 1847, p. 1180) he tells us that the *P. javanensis* is the young dress of *P. auritus* (!).

Mr. Blyth has, however, referred to two examples as B & C, under the head of *Podargus affinis*, in his Catalogue, p. 81, in these words: "Head, wings, and tail of two specimens of a nearly allied but distinct species. From Darjiling." This locality is identical with that from which the *Otothrix Hodgsoni* is brought, and I believe therefore that these fragments belong to my species; so that in these he could see distinctive characters, although he now ventures to judge from the figure only, and pronounces my *Hodgsoni* to be no other than *cornutus*, young.

The specimen of *Otothrix Hodgsoni* from which the description and figure were derived is that of an *adult* female, taken from the nest with its young; and it has, among other differences, a smaller bill than that of *P. cornutus*, its general coloration, the extreme length of the whiskers, &c.

*Note on Pleuronectes sinensis, Lacép.*

By Dr. A. GÜNTHER.

The generic name of *Tephritis* has been given by me to the Chinese Turbot, or *Pleuronectes sinensis*, Lacép. (Catal. Fish. iv. p. 406). Having since found it preoccupied by a genus of insects, I propose to replace it by that of *Tephrinectes*.

*Note on the Size of a Seal at the time of Birth.*

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

We have received from the Zoological Gardens the body of a Ringed Seal (*Callocephalus fœtidus*), that had died soon after its birth. It was entirely covered with closely set, well-developed fur of a silver-grey colour, being rather browner on the upper surface. It is 2 feet 8 inches long, from the tip of the nose to the end of tail; the fore paws are 6, and the hinder 8 inches long, and the latter are 7 inches wide when expanded. The webs of the feet are covered with hair, and the claws are well developed and black. The whiskers are white, well developed, and slightly waved.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* June 10, 1862.